

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 837

By Faulk

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend George M. “Buddy” Testerman for honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those Tennessee citizens, who through their extraordinary professional and personal efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors is George M. “Buddy” Testerman, a beloved member of the Rogersville community who has dedicated his retirement years to helping keep the city clean; and

WHEREAS, born December 11, 1922, Buddy Testerman attended Furman University and served in the United States military during World War II; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 1946, Mr. Testerman owned and operated his car business, Testerman Motor Company, until his retirement in 2004; the business holds the distinction of being the twenty-fifth-oldest family dealership in the United States; and

WHEREAS, upon retiring, he began taking walks through the city of Rogersville and picking up trash; this daily routine quickly became an altruistic outreach for Mr. Testerman; and

WHEREAS, striving to educate Rogersville’s citizenry about taking the time to keep the city clean, Mr. Testerman has gone before the Rogersville City Council and the Hawkins County Commission to stress the importance of enforcing litter laws; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Testerman has become a pillar of the community as he shares his sage wisdom and rich memories of his beloved Rogersville with those fortunate to receive one of his visits on his daily walk; and

WHEREAS, Buddy Testerman is also a dedicated civic leader who has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order through his work with numerous boards and organizations, including service as Chairman of the Republican Party from 1948 to 1968, Chairman of the Board of Hawkins County Bank, Director of Hawkins County Memorial Hospital, member of the Board of Directors of Halston Electric Cooperative, President of Community Chest, and Charter Member of Kiwanis Club; in addition, he was instrumental in the establishment of the United Way; and

WHEREAS, a devout man of faith, Mr. Testerman is a member of First Baptist Church, which he served as Deacon from 1957-1997; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Buddy Testerman is fortunate to share both love and companionship with his wife, Helen; the couple has two children; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Testerman's remarkable success as a businessman and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work, common sense, and uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Testerman is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he is wholly deserving of recognition by this Body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend George M. "Buddy" Testerman for his honorable and astute service in keeping Rogersville clean, offer our gratitude on behalf of the many significant and meritorious contributions he has made to this great State, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.